



PROCEEDINGS  
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A REMARKABLE NEW SPECIES OF PERILITUS  
FROM MEXICO (HYMENOPTERA: BRACONIDAE)

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*United States National Museum*

For many years the collections of the National Museum have contained three male specimens of a strikingly distinct and undescribed species of the euphorine genus *Perilitus* Nees. These had been taken in 1908 at Cordoba, Vera Cruz, Mexico. Recently a female specimen of the same species, from nearby Orizaba in Vera Cruz, was received from N. L. H. Krauss. This specimen had been reared in October 1954 from a cocoon found in a burrow in the stem of *Lantana camara*. The genus *Perilitus* is best known from the common *P. coccinellae* (Schrank), a parasite of adult Coccinellidae that occurs in all the major zoo-geographical regions of the world. Other species, for which the host associations are known, likewise parasitize adults of Coleoptera, and presumably the host of the species described here is also a beetle.

*Perilitus eximius*, new species

This species is at once distinguished from all described species of *Perilitus* by its long, very slender and smooth abdominal petiole.

*Female*.—Length about 4.5 mm. Head not so strongly transverse as is usual in this genus; temple sloping gradually from eye; eye enormous, the malar space being virtually eliminated; face longer between antennae and clypeus than wide, smooth and shining; antennae considerably shorter than the body, 22-segmented in the type. Mesoscutum with notaulices sharply impressed and foveolate, and with a low but distinct and complete median keel; middle lobe of mesoscutum shallowly punctate anteriorly, coarsely punctato-rugulose posteriorly, and thinly but uniformly hairy; lateral lobes smooth and polished and largely hairless; disc of scutellum smooth and shining; propodeum completely strongly rugose, its dorsal face horizontal and fully as long as the posterior face which is vertical and broadly hollowed out medially; mesopleurum smooth and polished but with a broad, shallow, rugose, longitudinal impression below; metapleurum coarsely rugose; radial cell on wing margin distinctly longer than the stigma; recurrent vein interstitial with intercubitus; hind wing with nervellus straight and distinctly shorter than basal abscissa of basella; hind coxae smooth and polished. First abdominal segment strikingly slender, broadening a little

posteriorly but about five times as long as its apical width, entirely smooth and polished, its spiracles situated at the middle and very prominent; ovipositor sheath longer than hind tibia.

Piceous black; antennae brown; wings subhyaline; anterior and middle legs brownish yellow, their coxae and trochanters a little paler; hind legs with coxae and femora piceous, trochanters, tibiae and tarsi brownish.

*Male*.—Essentially like the female but with the eyes not quite so large, the wings clear hyaline and the antennae 24-segmented and about as long as the body.

*Type-locality*.—Orizaba, Vera Cruz, Mexico.

*Type*.—U. S. National Museum No.

Described from one female (type) and three male specimens, the males collected April 21, 1908 by A. Fenyes at Cordoba, Vera Cruz.